

Remember Old Mill Race? It Once Provided Power for Provo Plants

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pany's utility center is now located on the block where the mill once stood.

Woolen Mills

The next large business located on Second West which used the Mill Race was the woolen mill, originally a cooperative started by Brigham Young and church leaders as part of the home industry program.

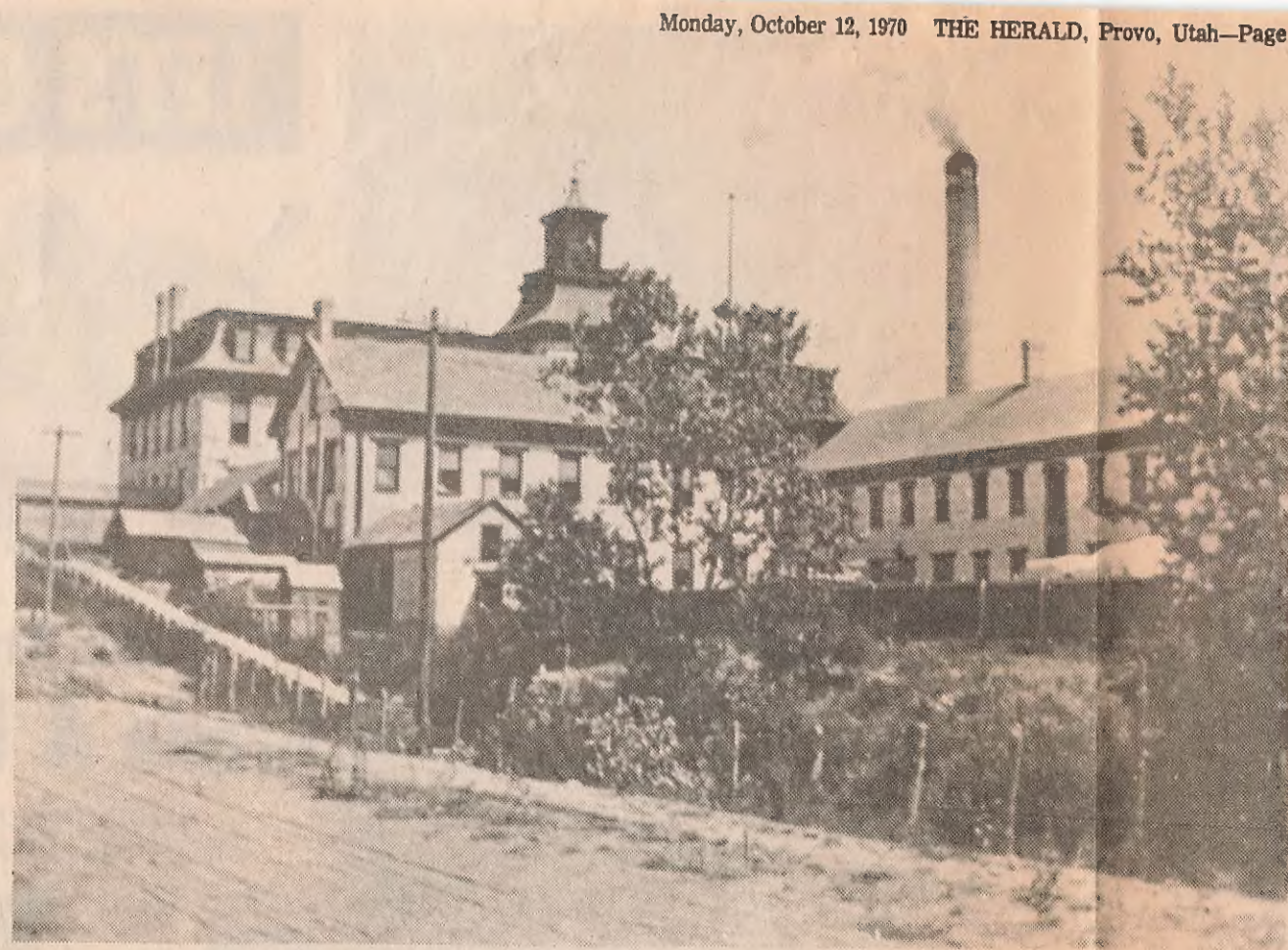
The Timpanogos Manufacturing Company, as the mill was originally known, was started June 1, 1869, and about \$1 million was invested. Some difficulty was encountered getting machinery to Provo, but the plant was in operation producing yarn in 1872, and the following year produced its first cloth. The quality, historians tell us, was not the best at first, but as better machinery was employed, the products of the mill were equal to the best imported from the East. The company was renamed the Provo Manufacturing Company in 1873. In 1913 the mills were bought by Jesse Knight, who added a number of new products to the line produced by the mill.

Scope Extensive

An indication of the scope of the operation may be obtained from looking at the wool purchased by the company's agents in 1883. Over one third of the wool crop that year was bought by the Provo Manufacturing

local buildings, and used water and power supplied by the Mill Race in the process. The square smoke stack is still visible today. (Photo loaned by Sidney Belmont.)

THE PROVO BRICK AND TILE COMPANY is shown here as it appeared in 1921. In the foreground are members of the Kiwanis Club of Provo. The yard produced bricks for many



THE PROVO WOOLEN MILLS were well-known throughout Utah. They were Provo's largest industry for many years. Originally built in 1869 as part of the home industries

program by Brigham Young and leaders of the LDS Church, the mills were later sold to Jesse Knight. They were gutted by fire in July 1918.

Company. While only one third of it was used locally, the rest was sold in the East.

In July 1918 the Woolen Mills were destroyed by fire. The blaze started in a wool dryer from spontaneous combustion.

The mills never completely recovered from the fire, but

continued to operate until 1932.

Further to the south, at Second South, the E. J. Ward and Sons Planning Mill was located. According to a 1902 description of the businesses of Provo, the mill "handled a complete line of builders hardware and sundries," and was equipped to "do first class mill work in all its

branches."

The Mill Race ran south to the Smoot Lumber Company at Sixth South. This was the last company to derive power from the Mill Race before it was diverted to the First Ward Pasture, part of which is now the city golf course.

With plans under way for the

removal of the railroad tracks along Second West and the construction of a four-lane arterial highway leading to downtown Provo, it appears that the street may again soon become one of the more important streets in Provo, figuring heavily in the development of the city.

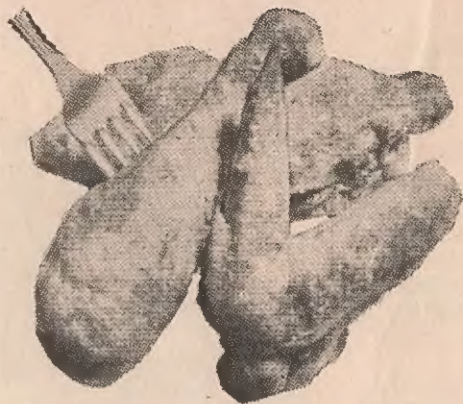


DR. GLEN R. BROWN, administrative director at the Utah State Hospital's Youth Center, introduces members of a youth panel to members of the sub-committee on

residential services this week. The youth panel discussed their needs at the hospital and two members, both drug users in the past, took opposite points of view on the legalizing of marijuana and other drugs.

Separate Adolescent Dormitory Cited as State Hospital Need

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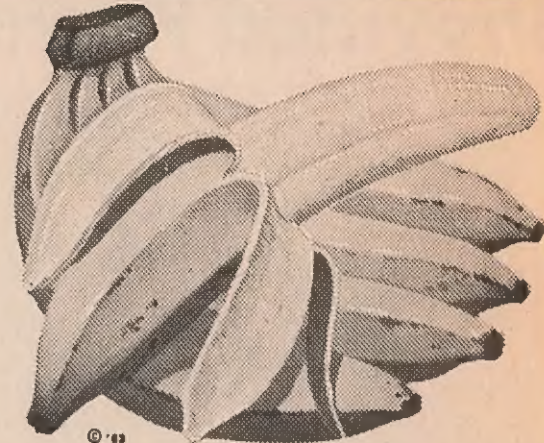


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